

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An assembly comprising a steering wheel and a vibration damping device, said vibration damping device comprising:

 a damping means arranged in said steering wheel,

 an attenuation mass mounted for vibration movement in said steering wheel and connected with said damping means, and

 an electrical control unit coupled with said damping means to actuate said damping means,

 said control unit being able to, after actuation of said damping means, further control said damping means to alter mechanical vibration characteristics of said device such that different vibration frequencies can be damped.

2. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to Claim 1, wherein said damping means is designed such that said mechanical vibration characteristics of said device can be altered by supplying electrical energy to said damping means.

3. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to Claim 1, wherein a sensor is provided, through which said control unit receives data regarding said vibrations of said steering wheel.

4. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to Claim 2, wherein said damping means comprises a material which alters mechanical characteristics with said supply of electrical energy.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to Claim 4, wherein said material is an electrorheological fluid.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An assembly comprising a steering wheel and a vibration damping device, said vibration damping device comprising:

a damping means including a hollow damping body arranged in said steering wheel,

a mass core acting as an attenuation mass arranged inside said hollow damping body, and

an electrical control unit coupled with said damping means, said electrical control unit being able to alter mechanical vibration characteristics of said damping means device such that different vibration frequencies can be damped.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

10. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to claim 9, wherein said hollow damping body is made of an elastic material.

11. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to claim 9, wherein said hollow damping body is ring-shaped.

12. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to Claim 1, wherein said damping means includes a hollow body made of an elastic material.

13. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to Claim 12, wherein said hollow body is ring-shaped.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Amended) The assembly according to Claim 12, wherein said hollow body contains one of an electrorheological and magnetorheological fluid.

16. (Currently amended) An assembly comprising a steering wheel and a vibration damping device, said vibration damping device comprising:

a damping means including a hollow damping body arranged in said steering wheel,

a mass core acting as an attenuation mass arranged inside said hollow damping body, and

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

an electrical control unit coupled with said damping means, said electrical control unit being able to alter mechanical vibration characteristics of said device such that different vibration frequencies can be damped, The assembly according to claim 9, wherein

said hollow damping body containing ~~contains~~ one of an electrorheological fluid and a magnetorheological fluid.

17. (Canceled)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY